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Appl. No. 10/807,213
Amdt. Dated Aug. 28, 2006**Amendments to the Claims:****Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (current amended): A switching terminal comprising:

a carrier strip;

a first terminal extending from an edge of the carrier strip comprising a first base section and a first contact section formed in a first plane and extending perpendicularly from the base section; anda second terminal extending from the edge of the carrier strip, being substantially parallel to the first base section of the first terminal and having a cutout defined in an edge thereof to absorb distortion of the second terminal in the course of the second terminal bending to be substantially parallel to the first base section of the first terminal, a second contact section formed on one end of the second terminal being displaced out of the plane of the first terminal.

Claim 2 (current amended): The switching terminal as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~first~~ second terminal comprises ~~a first retaining portion connecting with the carrier strip, a first contact section and a first base section connecting the first contact section with the first retaining portion~~ a pressing portion adjacent to the second contact, the pressing portion formed in arc configuration displacing from the first plane and the second contact section parallel to the first plane.

Claim 3 (current amended): The switching terminal as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second terminal further comprises a second retaining portion connecting with the carrier strip, ~~a second contact section and a second~~

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~~base section connecting the second contact section and the second retaining~~
portion the cutout being formed in semicircular and on an edge adjacent to
the first terminal.

Claim 4 (current amended): The switching terminal as claimed in claim 3, wherein the second base section comprises a transfiguration portion, a ~~pressing portion and an angled portion~~ interconnecting the transfiguration portion and the pressing portion.

Claim 5 (original): The switching terminal as claimed in claim 4, wherein the cutout is defined in the transfiguration portion.

Claim 6 (original): The switching terminal as claimed in claim 5, wherein the transfiguration portion is deflected outwardly from the position of the cutout.

Claim 7 (original): The switching terminal as claimed in claim 1, wherein a plurality of signal terminals connect with the carrier strip and are parallel to the first terminal.

Claims 8-15 (canceled):

Claim 16 (new): A switching terminal assembly comprising:
a first terminal defining a main plane and having an elongated first base section with thereof a first retaining section at a root region and a first contact section at a tip region wherein said first contact section essentially

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extends in a transverse direction with regard to a longitudinal direction of the first terminal;

a second terminal for electrically connecting with the first terminal, being substantially parallel to the first terminal from an elevational view, said second terminal including a second retaining section at thereof a root region, said second retaining section being coplanar with the first retaining section, an elongated second base section connected to the second retaining section, an angled portion connected to the second base section, and a pressing portion connected to the angled portion; wherein

a tip section of the pressing portion is essentially located at a same level with the first contact section, and said pressing portion is offset from said main plane from a side view.

Claim 17 (new): The assembly as claimed in claim 16, wherein both the first retaining section and the second retaining section are linked to a same carrier in a coplanar manner.

Claim 18 (new): The assembly as claim 16, wherein said angled portion is of a U-shaped configuration.

Claim 19 (new): A switching terminal assembly comprising:

a first terminal defining a main plane and having an elongated first base section with thereof a first retaining section at a root region and a first contact section at a tip region wherein said first contact section essentially extends in a transverse direction with regard to a longitudinal direction of the first terminal;

a second terminal for electrically connecting with the first terminal,

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being substantially parallel to the first terminal from an elevational view, said second terminal including a second retaining section at thereof a root region, said second retaining section being coplanar with the first retaining section, an elongated second base section connected to the second retaining section, and a pressing portion at a distal end of the second terminal,

a tip section of the pressing portion being essentially located at a same level with the first contact section, said pressing portion being offset from said main plane from a side view, wherein

a cutout is formed in an inner edge of said second terminal, facing the first terminal so as to facilitate deformation of the second terminal by rotation about said cutout for allowing the tip section of the pressing portion and the first contact section are overlapped with each other from the elevational view.

Claim 20 (new): The assembly as claimed in claim 19, wherein both the first retaining section and the second retaining section are linked to a same carrier in a coplanar manner.